

REMARKS

The Specification has been amended to update the status of the continuation data.

Claims 1; 3; 4; 5; 6; 18; 19; 20; 21; 22; 51; 60; 61; and 62 have been amended. Claims 2; 7; 17; 23 to 50; and 52 to 59 have been canceled. New claim 68 has been added.

Claims 1; 3 to 6; 8 to 16; 18 to 22; 51; and 60 to 68 remain in the application. Claim 1 is the sole independent system claim.

Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in light of these amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1; 8 to 14 as originally filed stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based upon Bond et al US 6,398,772 (Bond). Claims 2 to 6; 15 to 22 as originally filed stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based upon Bond in view of Talish et al. US 6,432,070 (Talish). Claims 60 to 67 as originally filed stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based upon Bond in view of Barsotti et al US 4,791,915 (Barsotti). Bond also incorporates by reference Peterson et al US 5,879,314 (Peterson).

Independent claim 1 has been amended to define a system for treating a thoracic cavity comprising an ultrasound applicator sized to be placed to the chest of an individual to transcutaneously apply ultrasound energy to the thoracic cavity and an agent administered to the individual to promote dissolution of thrombi before, during, or after application of the ultrasound energy. As further defined in amended claim 1, the system includes an assembly worn on the chest and affixed to the ultrasound applicator, to stabilize placement of the ultrasound applicator on the chest during application of ultrasound energy. The assembly includes components worn about the neck and/or back that leave the chest on opposing lateral sides of the ultrasound applicator uncovered, to not impede placement of another treatment device on the chest alongside the ultrasound applicator at the same time the ultrasound applicator is stabilized on the chest by the assembly. This feature is shown in Figs. 4 and 5, and described in the Specification on pages 11 and 12.

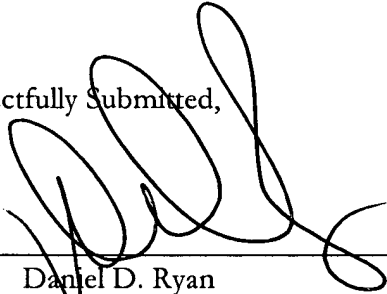
Neither Bond nor Talish nor Barsotti nor Peterson teaches or suggests a stabilization assembly for a chest-mounted ultrasound applicator that allows other treatment devices, e.g., a twelve lead ECG, to be placed alongside the applicator on the chest at the same time the applicator is being used. Bond, Barsotti, and Peterson do not disclose a stabilization assembly worn by a patient. In Talish (Fig. 2), an applicator is mounted on the chest by a belt that covers the chest on

both lateral sides of the applicator. There is nothing in Bond or Talish or Barsotti or Peterson that teaches or suggests or contemplates stabilizing an ultrasound applicator on the chest of an individual while also making possible the simultaneous placement of other treatment devices on the chest alongside the ultrasound applicator.

For these reasons, allowance of claims 1; 3 to 6; 8 to 16; 18 to 22; 51; and 60 to 68 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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